THE FRASER MILLIONS

You! Why, I may be a 'ladyship' be-

sold up everything?"

ly. "Everything, even the cow and the rather resented Sim's accompanying -the pig. Chub cried for the pig; but her to Montreal. the cow and the pig were sold in one lot because they're such friends."

"But s'posin'," delicately hinted Sim, millions?"

thing."

do you know they're yours?"

make me tired. I-I feel it, I tell me. of Ochiltree? There's a matter of four millions waising for me. Pounds. mind you, not paltry dollars. All I walk into the Bank of England, say, T've come for the money,' and they'll ners. give it to me straight off, or I'll know the reason why. I reckon to stay just when I come back."

"And you won't take me?"

"To London, or marry you?" "Both."

"Neither, thank you. I don't think you could live up to the Fraser mil-

Hons." "You've sorter set folks' backs up," delicately hinted Sam, "with thesever

glad you're goin'." The youthful widow turned upon him with a glorious light in her beautiful black eyes. "And you, Sim?

You're-you're not glad?" "See that tree?" asked Sim, pointing to an ancient rock elm which leaned crookedly against the side of Celinda's just sold.

te do with it?"

"You'll find me leanin' agin it when you come back; that's all." The young fellow's blue eyes impressed her with a sense of power. Her own fell beneath his masterful gaze.

"Croak away," she said, scornfully. "If I've need of you when I come hypothetical four millions. Chub's back. I'll ask for your forgiveness." "That'll do me," said the imperturb-

able Sim. "That'll do me, your-your hdyship." "Her ladyship" made him a pretty courtesy, and held the infant Chub. aged two and a half, more closely to her. 'You'll be a lord when we get the money," she said, ecstatically, to that

sleeping cherub; "and I'll dress you

up with a gold crown." "Take my advice, sonny," said Sim to the interesting infant, "and don't have nothin' to do with it. You'll have a heap more fun with the pig. I washed him a-purpose yesterday." He laboriously produced a document from his pocket. "I've brought you a let-

"What for?"

"It's for a big Canadian lawyer settled in London-Hiram Gould. I've sent him fifty dollars and told him to give you a show for the money."

'You dared to do that!" "Of course. I reckoned you wouldn't take me along. Somebody's got to

take you round and give you a good time." Celinda was touched. "You mean

well, but you're so ignorant, Sim." "I'm not too ignorant to know you're the prettiest girl in the Ottawa val-

"You mustn't. I'm not a girl, Sim. I'm a widow."

"If wishin' could have made you a widow, you wouldn't have waited all this time. He was a bad lot."

"He was," calmly acquiesced Celinda. "Most men are. That is why I want the money to be independent of them. I wonder who bought my house, Sim?"

"I wonder."

"If you're very good, when I come back I'll get you to manage things for me."

"I'd rather manage you," said the fervent Sim.

"Don't be so familiar. Remember. I'm a great lady." Sim shrugged his shoulders. use sayin' nothin'?"

"No use." Sim's lios worked a little. "Celinda, you're layin' up a heap of trouble for

yourself." "When I want you to get me out of half the place rushin' out to jeer at it. I'll tell you," she said, haughtily, her. Not much. No, sir. Not much. and went into the house.

There was a big but unsympathetic MPUDENCE, I call it." said the procession to see Celinda start from fair young widow Marston, "when the wharf next day. Four Cornerites you know I start for London to- vaguely resented Celinda's airs and gry, Sim. Don't be longer than you morrow. Marry you, Sim Parker! graces, and did not believe that she can help." would get the money. But she looked fore I come back with all that money." so radiant and confident that even the "You may. Some folks lows as you case-hardened editor of the Four Cormayn't," said Mr. Sim Parker, totally ners Gazette offered to adopt Chub ununmoved by Celinda's scorn. "You've til she came back. Celinda, haughtily conscious of the hostility of her for-"Everything," said Celinda, decided- mer friends, was coldly distant, and

But when the boat, was slowly "tugged" out from the wharf, and she saw Sim's handsome face receding "when you gets to London there ain't in the distance. Celinda, conscious of nothin' in this yer yarn about them certain misgivings, took the radiant Chub down to her cabin and cried "I can't suppose anything of the over him a little. The story of her sort. No one but a-a groundhog like being the heiress to the Fraser milyou, Sim, would think of such a lions was noised about all over the ship. For the last two years Celinda "I may be a groundhog-groundhogs industriously studied up the family is very good eatin' when you can't git pedigree, and there was no flaw in the nothin' else-but you're spendin' all evidence. As far back as 1750 Fraser the money you've got, after you've of Ochiltree's eldest son had emipaid off the late lamented's mortgage, grated to Canada. When Fraser of jess to fetch theseyer millions. How Ochiltree died his son had never claimed his money, which presumably "How do I know? Sim Parker, you continued to accumulate. One of the Montreal papers said that it amounted Wasn't my maternal great-grandfather to four millions. All Celinda had to a Fraser; and haven't I all the papers do was to prove her identity and bring proving my descent from the Frasers back the money. She wanted to settle down in the Judge's house and show people what she thought of them. But when the vessel got outside Quebec, have to do is to go over to London. Celinda would have given all the Fraser millions to be back at Four Cor-

But in time she recovered. Chub (he declined to be seasick) made viotwo days in London, and then home lent love to the captain, whom he peragain. I want to buy the Judge's place sisted in looking upon as a parent, greatly to that worthy's embarrass-"You're goin' to take the baby with ment. He was a married man, and told Chub so; but Chub only laughed "Chub? Of course I take the darling and gurgled, and wanted him to "tiss with me. You don't suppose I'd go mummy"-a proposal which sent a blush to the young widow's pretty

When Celinda reached Liverpool the captain obtained permission from his owners to take her up to town, and leave his first officer in charge. Celinda had refused to marry the first officer four times, the second officer twice, the third officer thrice, but they high-falutin' notions of yours. They're none of them bore malice, except to pity the captain for being a married man. "You see," said the first officer to his companions in misfortune, "we can afford to look down on him, because he's out of it-married. Now, if the widow comes back with us for the return trip, we can go on proposing until she gets tired and takes one pretty little house the house she had of us. It looked at first as if the old man had the bulge on us, but you just "Of course I do! What has that got | wait until he goes home and tells his wife all about it."

II. Sim Parker went into what had once been Celinda's pretty house and gazed at it with an air of satisfaction. Everything was just as it had been before Celinda went away to fetch the cradle, already aired, stood in one corner. Sim gave it a thoughtful push with his foot and set it rocking. Some interesting works of art on the wall shone in fresh frames. The rooms had been repapered and the kitchen ceiling whitewashed. At the sale Sim had been the only bidder for five photographs of the late unlamented Dick Marston. With a certain delicacy he took them into the kitchen and put them in the stove, as if he thought they would thus rejoin the person whom they portrayed. The "hired girl" wore a new frock, presented to her by Sim. Celinda's little pig. no longer an outcast, in spite of his piteous entreaties, had been scrubbed by Sim into a state of pinky perfection, in case Chub wanted to "love him." The black and white cow looked out from her stall and lowed to a pretty little black and white calf which had mysteriously appeared upon the scene. The calf wore a collar with the word

"Chub" in brass letters. "So far that's all right," said Sim. as he went round the veranda and noticed a belated humming bird hovering over a big fuschia in its green tub. "Now, if parson and his wife will only come in time' Celinda 'll git here just after dark, and nobody be any the

agent in Montreal, and smiled. Then he frowned.

"I dunno," he mused. "I dunno as it's fair to Celinda to force her into it. Reckon she'll be feelin' pretty bad."

He heard the whistle of the night boat as she fussed up to the long wharf. I'd like to wring the neck of that whip-poor-will," mused Sim, taking his position against the tree he chills."

The inhabitants of Four Corners were all indoors enjoying their evening meal, and the stage, after vain-"No ly waiting at the wharf to bring up

"Juss so," said Sim, placidly continring to smoke. "Juss so. She ain't goin' to come up in the stage, and have By and large, Celinda's pretty cute."

"Are you there, Sim?" asked a pleasant voice, as the parson's wife ap-

proached a tree. "You bet I'm here, Mrs. Clarke," said Sim, with a smile; "but it's sort of lonesome."

"You'll be very gentle with her," hesitated the minister's pretty wife. "You'll be very gentle with her, Sim. True love is never harsh or unkind." Sim nodded cheerfully. "You bet I'll be gentle. Minister in there?" He pointed to the little parlor, in which the lamp shone brightly.

"My husband? Yes; he's very hun-

"I've got a deputation of our 'leading citizens' hiding behind the barn," grinned Sim. "Had to pay old Parker ten dollars afore he'd come, and Chris Johnson five dollars; but they've learned their speech."

"You're a good man, Sim," said the little lady, and tripped away to join her husband.

Presently, as Sim stood leaning against a tree, a slight figure stole timidly through the dusk. In its arms it carried a bundle. A sob rose to its lips as it looked at the cozy little house. Then it turned sadly away. Chub, who was weary, began to cry. "I wouldn't go if I were you, Celin-

da," said Sim, softly. Celinda gave a little sob also, then choked it back. "I-I wanted just to have one look at it again. I might have known you'd be here, Sim."

"Of course," said Sim, quietly. 'Didn't I say so?"

"They laughed at me," faltered Celinda. "I went to the Bank of England with Mr. Gould, and they were quite satisfied with my proofs. The only difficulty was that there wasn't any money. It had never been lodged at the bank at all, and no one knew what had become of it." She turned away bitterly.

"Where are you going to put up, Celinda?"

'Anywhere-anywhere. I'm going into the bush," she said, fiercely, "I me right. I-I'm only grieving for that's often a big roll. Chub's sake."

Celinda. Here's your own house wait- the chronometer, is, say, twenty-five ing for you, all fixed up cumferable." seconds out he's the most surprised "My-own-house?"

"Of course." Sim took Chub from her tired arms. "Your own house, Celinda. Shall I carry the little feller in for you?"

"But I sold it."

"You! You!" She knelt at his feet. Sim held Chub with one hand and raised her with the other. "I'll go away if you don't want me," he whispered, brokenly. 'Only, there's a deputation waitin' to welcome you back,

Celinda. Brace up." "Sim, dear, will you forgive me?" she whispered, and kissed him with a sure thing."-Chicago Inter Ocean. a heart and a half. "I've been wicked, so unkind, so brutal to you."

"You've kissed me," said Sim. 'Kissed me! That answers every-

thing." He led her proudly to the house as she wiped away her tears. Once inside, Celinda "braced up" and received the greetings of the parson and his wife with shy cordiality. "Would you please marry us, and then we'll have supper?" she said, with characteristic

decision; and the parson understood. "The deputation" staggered in as the brief ceremony finished. "You kin git out again," said Sim. "You've been

asleep behind the barn." "Ain' slep' a wink. Wansh earn ten dollars," hiccoughed old Parker. "We. the undershined-" He looked helplessly round.

"Citi-citizens," hiccoughed Jimmer-

"We, the undershined-" "Weli, you kin juss go and shine somewheres else," said Sim. "I'm a married man, I am, and I can't have two cranks like you foolin' round." After making three unsuccessful at-

tempts to find the door the deputation withdrew. "We'll take them home," said the parson, making a sign to his wife. And they followed the devious footsteps of

the deputation. Outside, the river murmured at its own sweet will. All the happy souls who had ever loved shone down upon them with radiant, starlit eyes as Sim placed sleepy Chub within the empty cradle. Slowly slowly Celinda turned

Cause and Effect.

Black and White.

and hid her face upon his breast .-

"I beg your pardon," said the young doctor, who had recently settled in you to say yesterday that you never

house."-Philadelphia Ledger.

A New-Fangled Alarm Clock.

A Philadelphian has devised a novel arrangement of alarm clock and phon; ograph combined, which not only had mentioned to Celinda. "Makes me wakes him in the morning, but tells feel that lonesome, it gives me the him why he should arise. The spring which starts the alarm starts a moment later a phonographic attachment. which says: "Get up, you lazy loafer! It's 7 o'clock!"

A man who is nearly 80 years old, is passengers, crawled emptily into Four sick, and says he can't imagine what is the trouble. We can tell him; he was born too long ago.

After all, can you blame people for

not being as nice as they pretend? Some people are so mean that they can insult with a compliment.

BETTING ON WATCHES.

Advice of a Jeweler Who Decides the Wagers.

In the windows of nearly all the big retail jewelry stores down town are chronometers. In fact, the chronometer has become the most valuable part of the window display.

Two prosperous-locking men, after comparing watches the other day with one of these chronometers, were seen o go inside the store and a few minates later to reappear. As they did so one of the men passed a roil of bills to the other. Then they laughed shook hands, and separated.

The jeweler stood inside and smiled. "It's funny," he said, "how many people there are in this world who have the betting fever and how foolishly they risk their money. These two men are samples. Before the day ls over I've no doubt half a dozen more will be in to get me to decide similar bets. Every day we have some. "What did they bet on? Why, on

the nearness of their watches to the correct time. Of course, two men who make such a bet have the betting hunch to begin with. Then they're also stuck on the watches they carry. "There was the difference of two seconds between the watches in the case you just noticed, but on that \$25 changed hands. I've known it to

be as high as a hundred. "The difference between any two watches is rarely less than a half second. It's generally more. But when a bet is made men generally want the jeweler to decide it, and, of course, we're always willing. I guess quite a few thousands have changed our ordinary life and this is even truer

hands on my decisions by this time. "A man will get a watch abroad and pay big money for it. He'll meet a friend who has bought one of the crack American watches, and they've got the sporting instinct a bet ant to recall as a key to the man's will almost invariably follow a comparison of the watches.

"Perhaps both men have set their watches that day or the day before, and so are willing to wager all the haven't a friend left here. It serves money they've got with them, and

"When one of them finds that his "I wouldn't do that if I was you, watch, instead of being almost with man in the world.

"A man who bets on a watch, al though he may think he's betting on the surest thing in the world, is bet ting on something more uncertain than a race horse. You can tell generally "Well, I bought it back for you when the horse isn't going to run well, You've no call to thank me," said Sim. but you can't tell that about your morning. Some rifle pits were capwatch.

"I wouldn't bet on the correctness of my time from here to the next block In just that distance the mainspring might develop the weakness that no test thus far devised can detect when and parson's in the parlor. Brace up, it's made, and your watch is off. Then you lose your money if you're foolish enough to bet on what you thought was

Ten-elevenths of the world's people are north of the equator.

A Swedish sculptor has solved the problem of casting statues in one

An enormous sunfish, weighing 150 pounds, was left stranded by the tide at Blakeney, Norfolk, England. The Clyde's mouth must be enlarged

to permit the exit of two big Cunard steamers now being built therein. A new effort is being made in Dub-

lin to revive the old Irish harp, and it is meeting with considerable support. The maharajah of Baroda has a plece of woven work which cost over

\$1,000,000. It is only 10x6 feet in size, but is woven from strings of pearls, with a center and corner circles of diamonds. It was three years in the

Last year 2.075 English ships went through the Suez canal, 511 German ships, 281 French ships, 230 Netherland, 138 Austria-Hungary, 129 Russian, 57 Japanese, 87 Italian, 35 Spanish, 47 Norwegian, 20 Danish, 40 Turkish and 25 United States ships.

A grove of handsome pine trees borders the highway near the town of Eustis, Me., forming one of the natural beauties of the place. It seems that a practical lumberman wanted the trees and offered the town authorities \$3,000 for them, enough to pay the entire municipal debt, but the town preferred keeping the trees.

Conclusions may be made regarding a bird's habitat from an observation the neighborhood; "did I understand of his structure. The short wings of cuckoo, thrasher, towhee and catbird He looked at a telegram from his had any sickness at your house and enable them to fly and jump about in therefore never engaged a family phy- the thicket or brush heap, while the long-winged kingbird and swallow are "No," replied Krotchett. "I said I birds of the open. The so-called night engaged a family physician and there hawk, which is not a hawk and does fore never had any sickness at our not fly at night, was compared with the nocturnal whip-poor-will. Many of our readers may be surprised to learn that numerous nighthawks build their nests on the gravel roof tops of the houses on Beacon street, Boston, from which they frequently fly over the Public Garden and the Common.

Oranges.

Some exceedingly fine oranges come up out of Mexico-the orange magget is aware of that-but they quickly go to pith. Floridas and Californias almost alone have staying qualities and hat deep, satisfactory bouquet which a touch of frost imparts.

What has become of the old fashion ed women who went to the cellar to make cobweb pills when any of the ramily had a fever?

CIVIL WAR GENERALS

FEW OF THE OLD COMITAN DERS NOW LIVING.

Ranks of the Union Leaders Thinning -Interesting Assecdates Recalled by General "Bally" binith's Death-Conspicuous in the Great Struggle.

In this country we have no more

forcible reminder of the fact that we era entering upon a new era in our nalonal history than the bulletins which anounce from day to day the death of ae men who figured prominently in he command of our army during the lvil war. The three chief c mmanders long sine; passed away, and since their deaths the ranks of the men who ac-Lvely uphed the Union have be n pidity. The deaths of General Benjamin F. Butler, General Franklin and General William Farrar Smith removes among the last of the men who inaugurated and conducted separate campaigns. There are now lining but fourent divisions or corps. As these figures army within as to the army besieging pass from the scene of present day af- | it from without." fairs many contrasts between the way In which they met and solved the problems of their day, and the methods followed at the present time are presented. Much of the picturesqueness of civil war times has disappeared in in the case of our military and naval establishments. For instance, in connection with the death of General Smith, "Baldy" Smith he was always te called by his intimates, it will be pleascharacter the courage and resourcefulness with he conducted his campaign with the Army of the Potomac in the action leading up to the attack on Richmond. No more picturesque incident stands out from the history of the civil war. Smith's command was a "movable column," consisting of 16,000 infantry, sixteen pieces of artillery and a squadron of cavalry, and he was ordered to join the Army of the Potomac. Among other things, the report of the On June 1 he took up a position near Cold Spring Harbor, engaged the enemy for nine days, and on the fourteenth retired to Bermuda Hundred. The next day he was ordered to attack Petersburg, and that night moved forward, meeting the enemy early next tured, and Smith formed lines in front of the fortifications of Petersburg.

Acting as His Own Scout. The enemy's artillery was strong and well served, and Smith could not bring up his own guns. He had no engineer officer to make a reconnoissance of the enemy's line to discover its weak points, and so "Baldy" Smith became his own scout, crawling on his hands and knees for two hours. He coaxed his men forward, in small bodies, gradually getting his guns into position. and in this way they fought until 7 o'clock in the evening, when a general assault was ordered. Two hours later the principal fortifications to the key of the confederacy were taken.. Smith lost 750 men in round numbers, 500 of whom were negroes. He took sixteen guns, six being captured by the black troops, who fought gallantly. Hanerate with Smith at this battle, but the instructions were defective and the corps was delayed. Smith always believed that the defective instructions were given to embarrass him.

Of General Smith General Grant once said: "Smith, while a very able officer. is obstinate, and is likely to condemn whatever is not suggested by himself." He was not averse to criticising his superiors in command, and this fact did not add to his popularity in certain quarters. He was a fighter, not a diplomat, and as a result his career during the war was a stormy one.

It was in the Virginia peninsular campaign that his real active service creek and Lookout valley.

Around Chattanooga.

Memoirs as follows:

food for cattle that by the time they war.-Chicago Inter Ocean. reached Chattanooga they were much in the condition of the few animals left

Grant arrived at Chattanooga on Oc- statement on the throne of France.

tober 23, and the next day General Smith, who was then chief engineer of the Army of the Cumberland, with the commander in chief reconnoitered the position which the former said he had discovered at the mouth of Lookout valley. General Smith's plan was to surprise the enemy, seize the hills south of the Tennessee river at Brown's Ferry, build a pontoon bridge, recover the lines of communication and gain control of the river. General Grant gave his sanction and deputed "Baldy" Smith to command the forces which were to capture the heights and Lookout valley.

The movement, carried out on October 27, was successful and the army relieved, which allowed General Sherman to reach Chattanooga, and made possible the victory of Missionary Ridge. Thanks were tendered to General Smith and his officers, and in general orders No. 265, issued on Novem-; thinning with steadily increasing ra- her 7, 1863, General Thomas, who had succeeded Rosecrans, said: "To Brigadier General W. F. Smith.

chief engineer, should be accorded great praise for the ingenuity which conceived and the ability which executed the movement at Brown's Ferteen major generals who held that rank ry. When the bridge was thrown at fluring the civil war, and of these only Brown's Ferry on the morning of the one or two ever commanded independ- 27th the surprise was as great to the

Sto en Thunder.

The enemy made no further attempt to gain Lo kout valley. For more than thirty years the glory of this movement belonged to General Smith. A few years ago, however, the atlas of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park Commission was issued, and in it was the legend which asserted "that at daylight of October 27 the river line of communication with Bridgeport was opened by execution of a plan for recovering Lookout valley. devised by General Rosecrans." "Baldy" Smith declared this was incorrect, and

asked for an investigation. On August 23, 1900, a board of army officers met at Governor's Island, in New York harbor, to consider the matter. From the findings of the court it would appear that "Baldy" Smith had stolen General Rosecrans' thunder. Board said:

"The board failed to find evidence that Smith was the originator of plans for the relief of Chattanooga by military operations to be conducted on Lookout valley, but abundant evidence that the plan which contemplated crossings of the Tennessee river at Bridgeport and at the northern end of Lookout valley, and which was executed by General Thomas October 26-28, was devised and prepared by Rosecrans before relinquishing command. and that its execution was begun under orders issued by Thomas the very night (October 19) that Rosecrans was relieved from command of the Departs ment of Cumberland, without consulta-

tion with Smith." It was brought out at the investigation that General Rosecrans in September, 1863, had issued orders to reoccupy Lookout valley by reinforce ments from the north, which were to operate with troops from Chattanooga. The plans involved the crossing of the Tennessee river at Brown's Ferry by a bridge. Reinforcements under General Hooker arrived at Bridgeport on September 30, and Smith, reaching Chattacock's troops had been ordered to op. noogs about the same time, was told of the contemplated movement. According to the testimony, Smith made no reconnoissance of the river until October 19, the day General Rosecrans was relieved, and the latter was really responsible for the details of the movement which Generals Smith and Hooker, directed by General Thomas, carried out .- New York Evening Post,

Last Target in Civil War.

The last man fired upon during the

civil war lives in Huron, S. D. He is Maj. Fred F. B. Coffin, who has recently attracted attention as an author of several works on metaphysics. Major Coffin was in the last battle of the began, and out of which there arose war, which occurred at Palmetto the famous controversy which was Ranch, Texas, on May 12 and 13, 1865. ended but three years ago. After the The Union forces were commanded battle of Chickamauga, on September | by Gen. Theodore H. Barrett; the Con-21, 1863, General Rosecrans drew up federate forces by Gen. J. E. Slaughhis army near the southern side of ter. On the night of May 11 Gen. Chattanooga, Tenn. The railroad con- Barrett sent Col. David Branson with necting Chattanooga with Bridgeport, the Sixty-second United States inwhich formed the then only available fantry and two companies of the First base of supplies from the north, left Texas cavalry to destroy a Confederthe city, crossed Chattanooga creek are outpost and camp at Palmette near its mouth, followed the river Ranch. The camp was captured and closely to the north end of Lookout destroyed. About 4 o'clock on the Mountain, passed through a tunnel and | morning of May 13 Gen. Barrett arthen debouched into the northern end rived with the Thirty-fourth Indiana of Lookout valley. All passes in the infantry. An advance was made and mountain were abandoned, for the the Confederates were driven about Union line was behind Chattanooga two miles beyond Palmetto Ranch; When the Union troops arrived there Gen. Barrett ordered Major Fred F. General Rosencrans, in command at B. Coffin, then a captain, to take com-Chattanooga, was in a dangerous po- mand of the skirmishers. In a short sition, and the condition of his army, time Capt. Carrington rode up to the shut off as it was from its base, was west end of the grade with a detachdescribed by General Grant in his ment of Confederate cavalry and opened fire. He soon ordered a re-"This country afforded but little food | treat. As the Confederates were leave for his (Rosecrans') animals, nearly ing one cavalryman wheeled his horse 10,000 of which had already starved, around, dismounted, took deliberate and not enough were left to draw a aim, and fired at Major Coffin. The single piece of artillery, or even ambu- ball struck in the sand about six feet lances to convey the sick. The men in front of him. This was at sundows had been on half rations of hard bread on May 13, 1865. The following morn for a considerable time, with but few ing an order was received to the efother supplies except beef from Nash- fect that Gen. Dick Taylor and Gen. ville, across the country. The region Kirby Smith had surrendered to Gen along the road became so exhausted of Sheridan, which incident closed the

Louis XVIII, spent most of the year alive there. Indeed, the beef was so of his exile in England. He took poor that the soldiers were in the habit house in London, where he lived quiet of saying with a faint facetiousness ly, and, it is said, was much mor that they were living 'on half rations concerned with the quality of his din of hard bread and beef dried on the ner than the nature of the news from the war that was waged for his rein